

**COASTAL IMPACT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (CIAP)
PROJECT NOMINEE FACT SHEET**

1). Project Title:

Falgout Canal Freshwater Enhancement Project

2). Entity/Individual Nominating Project:

Terrebonne Parish Consolidated Government

3). Contact Information:

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4). Total State CIAP Funds Requested:

Total CIAP Funds Requested: \$5 million

5). Infrastructure Funds Proposed:

There are \$0 infrastructure funds proposed for this project.

6). Description and Location of Project:

The proposed project area is located in the Terrebonne Basin of CWPPRA Region 3, Terrebonne Parish, in the marshes adjacent to Falgout Canal, between Bayou Dularge and the Houma Navigation Canal.

7). Project Type: 1,2 & 4

The Falgout Canal Freshwater Enhancement Project will be implemented for the conservation, restoration and protection of coastal areas including wetlands; to mitigate damage to fish, wildlife and natural resources; and the implementation of a federally approved marine, coastal or comprehensive conservation management plan. Specifically, Action Plans EM-1 (Hydrologic Restoration), EM-2 (Freshwater and Sediment Diversions) and EM-7 (Marsh Management) of the Barataria-Terrebonne National Estuary Program (BTNEP).

8). Project Justification:

The marshes located in the project area have been hydrologically isolated from historical flow patterns by construction of various navigation channels, including the Houma Navigation Canal (HNC) and the Falgout Canal. Because of these barriers, the prevailing hydrologic influence is confined to southern tidal flows, which has resulted in elevated salinity and land loss in historically fresh and intermediate marshes. By reestablishing the historical north-south flow, the project would expand the zone of beneficial Atchafalaya influence by modifying water flow patterns to include those marsh area that have suffered catastrophic loss due to hydrologic isolation and salinity intrusion. The marshes are expected to benefit from reduced salinity and increased nutrients and sediment. In addition, the project will also facilitate creation of new marsh by terracing large shallow open water areas receiving new freshwater flow.

This project would include construction/modification of a structure at a site located on the HNC north of Falgout Canal to increase freshwater flow to marshes north of the canal and to create a freshwater plume to benefit marshes south of the canal. Three sets of six 36" culverts would be installed through the road separating the Falgout Canal from the marshes to the south to introduce freshwater, nutrients, and sediments. Approximately 50,000 linear feet of earthen terraces would be constructed in the broad shallow open water to facilitate marsh development.

Preliminary Project Benefits

- 1) Approximately 5000 acres of existing marsh can be expected to benefit from the project freshwater flow enhancements.
- 2) Because much of the project area has degraded to open water, with terracing and the benefits of freshwater introduction an additional 4000 acres of marsh can be expected to benefit over the project life.
- 3) The 50,000 linear feet of terracing will create approximately 675 acres of new marsh. Because the southern area of the project has already converted to nearly complete open water the project should offset any further loss and through terracing result in a net gain to the area.
- 4) Land loss is expected to be offset greatly in the northern area of the project area as a result of improved freshwater flow.

Preliminary Estimated Construction Costs:

\$5,000,000.00

Coast 2050 Strategy:

This project meets the Coast 2050 Region 3 Strategy 4:

Enhance Atachafalaya River influence to Terrebonne marshes (excluding upper Penchant)

In addition, the project also meets the restoration goals identified by the Strategic Plan for Coastal Restoration adopted by the Terrebonne Parish Coastal Zone Management and Restoration Advisory Committee and supported by the Terrebonne Parish Council, and the goals and objectives of the specified action plans of the BTNEP. The project was presented by Terrebonne Parish at the CWPPRA PPL 16 planning round in January of 2006 but was not selected for continued investigation. No engineering or design funds have been spent on this project.

9). Project Cost Share:

The project cost share is unknown at this time.

Attachments

1. CWPPRA Project Nomination Fact Sheet and Map – NRCS

Falgout Canal Freshwater Enhancement

